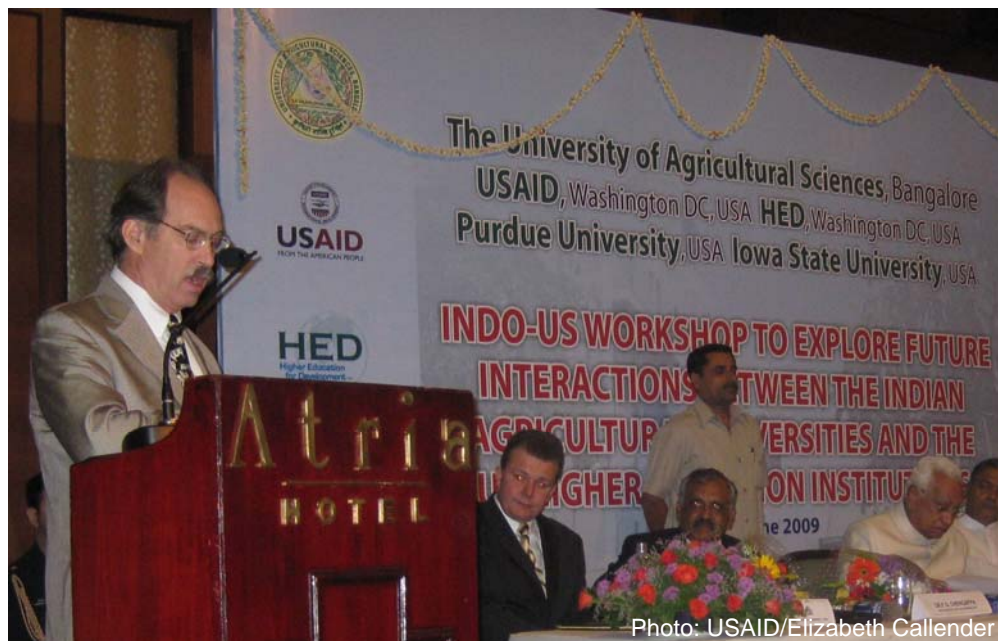




USAID | **INDIA**
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

INSIDE INDIA

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Daniel Miller, Office Director, General Development Office, USAID/India addressing the Bangalore Conference.



Photo: GMED/USAID

INDO - U.S. Partnership Produces Significant Advances in Agriculture

Over the past fifty years, higher education partnerships between U.S. land grant universities and Indian state agricultural universities have produced significant advances in agriculture in India, including the "Green Revolution."

On June 9 -10, 2009, Vice-Chancellors from various Indian agricultural universities and U.S. universities came together at a conference in Bangalore, capital city of Karnataka state in Southern India, to discuss the successes and lessons-learned of previous partnerships and to explore opportunities for future collaboration.

The USAID-funded partnerships, managed by the Higher Education for Development (HED), noted the accomplishments of curriculum development, student and faculty exchanges, joint research projects and applied technology transfer projects that directly benefited the rural poor of India.

The conference, organized by Purdue University and Iowa State University, and hosted by the University of Agricultural Sciences-Bangalore, provided a platform for academic leaders, scientists and private sector representatives to define a common vision and objectives for future partnerships. Conference participants

called for a revitalization of agriculture universities beyond the traditional paradigm of teaching, research, and extension to tackle current challenges in India such as declining agricultural productivity, climate change, rapidly changing global market dynamics, food security and nutrition issues, and pervasive rural poverty.

Faculty from leading agriculture universities across India participated in the conference, along with representatives from the University of California-Davis, Cornell University, University of Houston, Iowa State University, Michigan State University, Ohio State University, and Purdue University, USAID and HED. ■

PEPFAR/India Coordinator Awarded the Prestigious 2009 Major Joe Haydon Memorial Award

PEPFAR/India Coordinator Janet M. Hayman has been awarded the prestigious 2009 Major Joe Haydon Memorial Award for her exceptional contribution to The United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). This is the first time the award has been given to a PEPFAR Coordinator from a non-focus country. The award was announced at the PEPFAR annual meeting in Windhoek, Namibia.

"I got a call from my team after the award was announced. I could hear all the background clatter and really felt part of the event. I'm leaving USAID at the end of June and I have such happy memories of my time in India. With this, I will retire on a high note," stated an excited Janet on receiving the award.

Janet Hayman has been with USAID/India since 2004. Since 2005, as the

PEPFAR/India Coordinator, Janet has been working with four U.S. Government agencies: USAID, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Office of Defense Cooperation (ODC), and the Department of Labor (DOL). She has been spearheading the joint interagency team that works closely together on annual budgets, plans and reports, team visits and exchange of technical information.

As PEPFAR Coordinator, Janet has also been closely involved with India's Country Coordinating Mechanism of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, as the alternate U.S. Government representative.

The Major Joe Haydon Award for



Photo: USAID

Exceptional Contribution to PEPFAR was established in 2006 as a memorial to Major Joe Haydon, U.S. Army, who contributed exceptional time and effort in facilitating the launch of PEPFAR in Nigeria. He died in the line of duty in 2005. ■

Increased Focus on India in 2009 HIV Implementers' Meeting

Photo: KHPT/Dr Gajanan Pise



Dr. Sanjay Kapur addressing the 2009 HIV/AIDS Implementers' Meeting.

At the 2009 HIV/AIDS Implementers' Meeting held in Windhoek, Namibia, USAID/India's program on 'Technical Support Units for Building Capacity of Government on HIV/AIDS' was selected as a "Best Practice in Programming" (one among the five globally) by the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator. USAID/India's successful efforts on HIV/AIDS prevention and care were also cited in several of the speeches, abstracts and presentations made at this annual global forum.

Dr. Sanjay Kapur, Chief, HIV and TB Division, USAID/India, was appointed as a Rapporteur for the valedictory session. He made the keynote presentation on the prevention theme, which was highlighted as a renewed priority for PEPFAR countries for the next five years. The audience included heads of states, government representatives, U.S. ambassadors and over 2000 delegates from 55 countries. Dr. Kapur's selection is a global recognition of his expertise in the area of HIV prevention and the response to its challenges in resource poor settings. ■

USAID Project Recognized as a UN-HABITAT `Best Practice`

USAID supported City Links Post-Tsunami Recovery Program (2005-2007), was selected from 500 entries to win the `Dubai International Award for Best Practices (DIABP) 2008` for its outstanding contribution towards improving the living environment by UN-HABITAT. The program, designed to help restore and improve infrastructure for the two tsunami-hit Indian cities of Nagappattinam and Cuddalore on the east coast of Tamil Nadu, will now be showcased in casebooks, international events, print, and electronic media and at the UN-HABITAT learning center and Best Practices website.

The City Links Partnership Program, implemented by International City/County Management Association (ICMA), connected Indian officials with counterparts from American cities that had faced similar natural disasters. The American city managers volunteered their time and expertise to collaborate with the Indian officials on ideas for rebuilding and improving the Indian cities' infrastructure. Indian officials also visited cities in Florida to conduct first-hand studies of cities that have withstood hurricanes and successfully restored their infrastructure. With these exchange visits and technical assistance, the Indian community leaders were provided training to improve local infrastructure to serve the community better, making it scalable to meet future demands and enabling it to withstand future crises. ■



With USAID support, volunteers from the community, including women and children, constructed a playground at Nagapattinam. Seen in the picture: Muslim high school girls drill blocks of wood to help with the construction of a playground (left). Children playing at the playground on its inauguration day (right). Photo:ICMA-Citylinks.

USAID-Supported Voucher Scheme Gains Government Support

The Indian state of Uttarakhand (population 8.48 million) announced that it will scale up a USAID-supported health public-private partnership pilot program in five districts across the state.

The Maternal and Child Health

Voucher Program gives poor women vouchers to access quality maternal and child health care services at accredited health facilities free of cost. It increases the number of women having deliveries in institutions, saving the lives of many mothers and newborns.

According to the plan, this year, the state government will share 50% of the cost towards supporting the scheme with USAID, amounting to \$500,000. Next year, the state government will raise its stake to 75% and, in 2011, it will fully adopt the scheme. ■